<u>Wanted: Better Search results</u>

SDLA 2011 Poster Session

Stop and Think

- what do you need?
- what is your purpose?
- where would be the best place to start?
- what do you already know?

Strategy

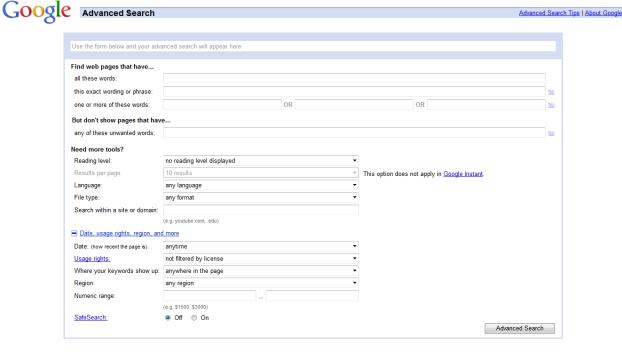
- What kind of guidance do you provide your students when assigning research topics?
- Library databases may provide better information faster than starting with Google
- Provide a list of resources useful for specific assignment
- For example: State Library online resources (http://library.sd.gov >> Online Resources) provide
 access to lexile leveled non-fiction and fiction articles, suggested websites and more.)

Visualize

- Imagine the answer, not the results
- Search for the terms and phrases that would appear in the answer

Google

- Useful for:
 - Newly updated information (how many gold medals the US has won during the Olympics)
 - Local information (event that is occurring in your community this weekend)
- Advanced search:



Wikipedia

Provides links to "official site" in sources cited

Bibliography

Mine the sources cited for additional articles

State Library Resources (http://library.sd.gov >> Click Online Resources)

- Subscription resources: vetted, safe, authoritative
- Access available inside all schools, public libraries and academic institutions
- At home access available with library card

Elementary/Middle

- World Book Encyclopedia for Schools (Kids and Student)
 - Source for general background information and term gathering
- SIRS Discoverer
 - Selected full-text magazine articles

Middle/High

- World Book Encyclopedia for Schools (Advanced)
 - Ebooks, primary source documents and encyclopedia articles
- SIRS Issues Researcher
 - o Selected full-text magazine articles, research guides for popular topics
- Proquest
 - Journals

Credibility

- Judging credibility: RADCAB
- Domain—isn't a reliable guide. Hoax sites may use .org

Tips and Tricks to apply everywhere

- Advanced search
- Quotation marks
- Boolean (AND/OR/NOT)—often easy to construct in Advanced search view

Additional Search Resources:

- Bergson-Michelson, Natasha. "Search Engine Results as the First Defense of Authority. "Knowledge Quest 38.3 (2010): 9-13.(free online here: http://tothepointresearch.com/publications/predict)
- Bergson-Michelson, Natasha. "Wikipedia as a Steppingstone Resource." To the Point Research. 24
 May 2010. (http://searchme.typepad.com/search-me/2010/05/wikipedia-as-a-steppingstone-resource.html)
- Boolean machine (http://kathyschrock.net/rbs3k/boolean/)
 - Visualize the effect of Boolean operators on a search
- Predictive search webinars (https://sites.google.com/site/gwebsearcheducation/invitation-to-next-webinar)
 - Webinars are archived. Tasha Bergson-Michelson will be presenting some upcoming sessions.
- RADCAB (http://www.radcab.com/) "Your vehicle for information evaluation"
 - o Includes link to RADCAB rubric for information evaluation
- Teaching the Ten Steps to Better Web Research by Dulcinea Media (http://www.slideshare.net/sweetsearch/teaching-the-ten-steps-to-better-web-research)
 - Where to search
 - o Try several searches
 - Dig deep for best results
 - Think before you search
 - Make search engines work for you
 - Question—don't believe everything you read!
 - Primary sources
 - o Verify source—who published?
 - Why was article written
 - O When was information written/last revised?
- Valenza, Joyce . "I hope you'll search (with skill): a revised letter to my grads." Never Ending Search.
 (http://blog.schoollibraryjournal.com/neverendingsearch/2011/06/08/i-hope-youll-search-with-skill-a-revised-letter-to-my-grads/)
- "Websites to Validate" by Alan November (http://novemberlearning.com/resources/iii-mebsites-to-validate/)